PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

TAMURA, Mitsuru, et al.

Divisional Application of

Appln. No.: 09/575,248 Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: January 9, 2002

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING AGGLOMERATES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a divisional of Application No. 09/575,248 filed May 22, 2000; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-3 and 10-15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Divisional Application of

U.S. Appln. No. 09/575,248

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 10-15, which were elected in parent Application Serial No. 09/515,248,

have been cancelled from the present divisional application.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 9, 2002

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Divisional Application of U.S. Appln. No. 09/575,248

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Page 1, before the first line, insert the following:

--This is a divisional of Application No. 09/575,248 filed May 22, 2000; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3 and 10-15 are canceled.